

**Radial Fractures**

The fractures or cracks that radiate out from an impact site in non-crystalline materials such as glass, ceramics, bone and certain plastics.

**Radial Pressure Gage**

A British term denoting a gage to measure cartridge-developed pressure through the sidewall of a case or shotshell tube as opposed to measuring the pressure transmitted through the head.

**Radius, Mean**

One method used to measure ammunition and/or firearm accuracy capability. To determine the mean radius, the center of the group is located, and the distance to the center of each shot from the group center is measured and recorded. The sum of these measurements divided by the number of shots is the mean radius.

**Radius, Neck**

The curved surface between the neck and the shoulder of a cartridge case.

**Radius, Shoulder**

The curved surface between the body and the shoulder of a cartridge case.

**Ramp Sight**

A front sight which is mounted atop a ramp.

**Ramp, Feed**

Surface in the receiver or barrel of a repeating action firearm along which the cartridge rides in feeding from magazine to chamber. Also called **CARTRIDGE RAMP**.

**Ramp, Loading**

A platform or cut placed in the bottom of the receiver that aids in guiding a cartridge into the chamber as the action is closed.

**Ramp, Sight**

A sight base having a sloping rear surface.

**Ramrod**

A rod used in seating a load in muzzle-loading firearms.

**Range**

An area equipped for testing firearms and ammunition. The horizontal distance between the firearm and the target.

**Range of Conclusions Possible When Comparing Toolmarks**

The examiner is encouraged to report the objective observations that support the findings of toolmark examinations. The examiner should be conservative when reporting the significance of these observations.

1. **Identification:** Agreement of a combination of individual characteristics and all discernible class characteristics where the extent of agreement exceeds that which can occur in the comparison of toolmarks made by different tools and is consistent with the agreement demonstrated by toolmarks known to have been produced by the same tool.
2. **Inconclusive:**
  - A. Some agreement of individual characteristics and all discernible class characteristics, but insufficient for an identification.
  - B. Agreement of all discernible class characteristics without agreement or disagreement of individual characteristics due to an absence, insufficiency, or lack of reproducibility.

*this was left out of the early "redraft" listings.*

*#5 added by J. M. Murdoch 1-4-11.*

- C. Agreement of all discernable class characteristics and disagreement of individual characteristics, but insufficient for an elimination.
3. **Elimination:**  
Significant disagreement of discernable class characteristics and/or individual characteristics.
4. **Unsuitable:**  
Unsuitable for examination.

**Range, Effective**

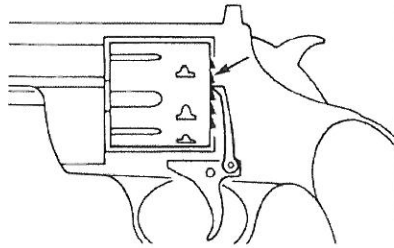
The maximum distance at which a projectile can be expected to be lethal.

**Range, Maximum**

The greatest distance a projectile can travel when fired at the optimum angle of elevation of the barrel.

**Ratchet**

A notched wheel on the rear of a revolver cylinder which causes the cylinder to rotate when force is applied by a lever called a hand.

**Rate of Twist**

The distance required for the rifling to complete one revolution. Example: 1 turn in 12 inches. See **PITCH, RIFLING**.

**Reamer**

One of many spiral or straight-fluted multi-edged cutting tools used to size and shape a hole.

**Rear Sight**

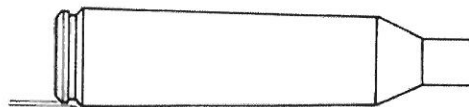
Any metallic sight used in conjunction with a metallic front sight located anywhere between the shooter eye and the front sight.

**Rebarrel**

The replacing of a barrel with another barrel.

**Rebated Head**

A centerfire cartridge case whose rim diameter is smaller than the diameter of the body of the case.

**Rebated Rim**

A centerfire cartridge case whose rim diameter is smaller than the diameter of the body of the case. Also known as a **REBATED HEAD**.

**Rebounding Hammer**

A type of firing mechanism wherein the hammer or striker retracts slightly to a rest position after causing ignition.